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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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09/832,153

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03/22/2007

EXAMINER

SHORTLEDGE, THOMAS E

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2626

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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3 MONTHS

03/22/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/832,153

Applicant(s)

LIU, CHANG PO

Examiner

Thomas E. Shortledge

Art Unit

2626

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 December 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 5-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 5-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This communication is in response to Remarks, filed 12/14/06.
2. Claims 5-10 are pending.
3. The 35 U.S.C. 112 first paragraph rejection of claims 3-4 has been withdrawn in accordance of the claim amendments.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

4. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claims 5-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. The applicant ascertains that no new matter has been included in the newly filed claims. However, the examiner argues that claims 5, 7, and 9 do introduce new matter. The specification as filed merely recites an input terminal device embodying the following elements: 1. Alphabetical Letter keys of the English language, 2. The numerical keys from 0 to 9, 3. Other miscellaneous symbolic

and functional keys, and 4. The specific character keys, that are mostly used for indicative purposes to differentiate the meaning of words of similar phonetic values (specification, page 2). The specification does not state how these keys are used in conjunction with each other, nor does it clearly state what is produced when the keys are inputted. The specification further states that the principal object of this invention is to provide means of high speech automated processing for words of Chinese-style languages. It is further stated that the purpose of the new Chinese symbols is to differentiate the largest number of phonetically similar words in the Chinese-style languages (specification, page 2). Another purpose is stated to further improve the efficiency in the processing data with Chinese-style language input information (specification, page 2). However, the specification as originally filed does not properly describe a way in which any of the proposed processes are completed. The newly filed independent claim 5 recites a method for producing a set of phonetically similar Chinese words in Chinese-style languages (claim 5, lines 3-4) and when said producing means produces aid phonetically similar Chinese words, one of said specific Chinese character keys is used to obtain one of said phonetically similar Chinese words as a desired Chinese word by means of the actual meaning thereof (claim 5, lines 10-12). However, no method and steps can be found recited in the specification producing such a result. The newly filed independent claim 7 recites steps of (a) producing a set of phonetically similar Chinese words, in Chinese-style languages by steps a.1, a.2, and a.3, and (b) inputting on one of specific Chinese character keys to obtain one of said phonetically similar Chinese words as a desired Chinese word (claim 7, lines 2-10). However, the

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specification is lacking in reciting any steps to carry out the above process. As can be seen from above, the specification merely recites a device with keys. Newly filed independent claim 9, recites steps of outputting compatible display said Chinese-style language words based on inputs, obtaining means of the actual meaning thereof based on an input of one of specific Chinese character keys, and outputting said desired Chinese word (claim 9, lines 3-11). Where the specification does not teach steps of outputting capable display, obtaining one of said phonetically similar words and outputting said desired Chinese word. The specification (as stated above) merely teaches a set of input keys, but does not fully describe functionality to the keys, and does not further teach outputting said desired Chinese word. The specification merely teaches an output terminal device, does not specifically disclose a display.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

6. Claims 5-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Bernath (5,212,638).

As to claim 5, Bernath teaches:

means for producing a set of phonetically similar Chinese words in Chinese-style languages, wherein said producing means comprises a plurality of alphabetical letter keys of English languages, a set of numerical keys from 0 to 9, a plurality of miscellaneous symbolic and functional keys (inputting alphabetical letter keys, and numerical keys, Fig. 1a, and col. 13, lines 1-12 and col. 13, lines 1-12);

a plurality of specific Chinese character keys, wherein each of said specific Chinese character keys is a classification of actual Chinese words to indicatively differentiate the meaning of Chinese words of similar phonetic values, wherein when said producing means produces said phonetically similar Chinese words, one of said specific Chinese character keys issued to obtain one of said phonetically similar Chinese words as desired Chinese word by means of the actual meaning thereof (inputting miscellaneous keys and inputting symbols of the Chinese-Style National Phonetic alphabet, the different Chinese words represent different word meanings, col. 8, lines 1-10 and Fig. 1a).

As to claim 7, Bernath teaches producing a phonetically similar Chinese words in Chinese-style languages (col. 8, lines 1-14) by:

inputting alphabetical letter keys of English language (Fig. 1a and col. 13, lines 1-12);

inputting numerical keys from 0 to 9 (Fig. 1a and col. 13, lines 1-12);

inputting miscellaneous symbolic and functional keys (Fig. 1a "Shift," "Enter," "I, II, III, and IV"); and

inputting one of specific Chinese character keys to obtain one of said phonetically similar Chinese words as a desired Chinese word by means of the actual meaning thereof, wherein each of said specific Chinese character keys is a classification of actual Chinese words to indicatively differentiate the meaning of Chinese words of similar phonetic values (inputting miscellaneous keys and inputting symbols of the Chinese-Style National Phonetic alphabet, the different Chinese words represent different word meanings, col. 8, lines 1-10 and Fig. 1a).

As to claim 9, Bernath teaches:

outputting compatible display said Chinese-style language words based on inputs of alphabetical letter keys of English languages, numerical keys from 0 to 9, miscellaneous symbolic and functional keys, wherein said compatible display said Chinese-style language words are set of phonetically similar Chinese words in Chinese-style languages (Fig. 6a, display is output from processing Character Code, inputting symbols of the Chinese-Style National Phonetic alphabet, col. 8, lines 1-10 and Fig. 1a);

obtaining one of said phonetically similar Chinese words as desired Chinese word by means of the actual meaning thereof based on an input of one of specific Chinese character keys, wherein each of said specific Chinese character keys is a classification of actual Chinese words to indicatively differentiate the meaning of Chinese words of similar phonetic values (inputting alphabetical letter keys, Fig. 1a and

col. 13, lines 1-12, and obtaining the Chinese words based on the input supplied by the user and the meaning of the word supplied by the means, col. 13, lines 1-12); and outputting said desired Chinese words (output, Fig. 6a).

The subject matter of claims 6, 8 and 10 is directed to nonfunctional descriptive material and has not been given any patentable weight.

Response to Arguments

7. Applicant's arguments filed 12/14/06 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

The applicant argues (Remarks, page 11) that Bernath does not teach nor suggest incorporating the actual meaning of the Chinese word to minimize the error of the outputting the phonetically similar Chinese words. However, the examiner argues that Bernath teaches categorizing the Chinese characters based on the meaning of the words attached to the characters (col. 10, lines 36-52).

The applicant argues (Remarks, page 12) that Bernath does not teach any mention of the keyboard having any specific key for the user to input the class of the Chinese word so as to indicatively differentiate the meaning of Chinese words of similar phonetic values. However, the examiner disagrees and argues that Bernath teaches

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inputting specific keys with the purpose to differentiate the meaning of similar sounding Chinese words, where different inputted symbols of the Chinese-Style National Phonetic alphabet, lead to different classes of Chinese words (col. 8, lines 1-10, and col. 10, lines 36-52).

The applicant argues (Remarks, page 12) that Bernath does not teach Chinese words are classified into a plurality of classes. However, the examiner argues that Bernath does teach that a plurality of classes are used to categorize Chinese words, the words are categorized based on the meaning of the words attached to the specific characters (col. 10, lines 36-52).

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

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the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thomas E. Shortledge whose telephone number is (571)272-7612. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:00 - 4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richemond Dorvil can be reached on (571)272-7602. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

TS
3/19/07


RICHEMOND DORVIL
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER